WONDERFUL FLORIDA

THE SINGING TOWER,
LAKE WALES

Flowers and Palms

Bok Singing Tower and Mountain Lake Sanctuary

"The Most Beautiful Spot in the World"

On the peak of Iron Mountain, the highest spot in Florida, the late Edward W. Bok erected his magnificent Singing Tower and created the Mountain Lake Sanctuary, comprising forty-eight acres. On February 1, 1929, this beautiful Singing Tower and wonderful Sanctuary was dedicated by President Calvin Coolidge, formally opened to the public, being generously donated to the people of the United States by Mr. Bok.

To transform a barren sand-hill into a place so beautiful, so that no writer is able to describe it adequately, was the work of more than one hundred men for five years.

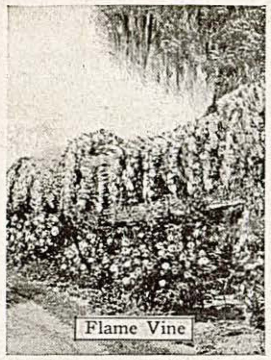
A boulevard leads from Lake Wales, about one and one-half miles distant, to the Tower and the Sanctuary, a superb garden, beautifully laid out, ablaze with the color of every flower known to Florida and a refuge for thousands of birds, which sing daily in its shrubs and trees. The only nightingales in America are here and beautiful flamingoes are to be seen wading in the two artificial lakes.

The Tower rises to the majestic height of 205 feet, the equivalent of a 20-story skyscraper. At its foundation it is 51 feet wide, and, in gradually changing form and tapering lines, it becomes octagonal at the top and but 37 feet wide.

The Tower is built of Georgia pink marble and Florida coquina rock. The sculpture, delicate as lace, is the work of 26 expert carvers working over a year, designed by Lee Lawrie, the New York sculptor. Inscriptions showing the floral and bird life of Florida are carved at the base. The solid, golden-bronze tower door is more than twelve feet high. It is hand-wrought, by Samuel Yellin, centering in its rich design the various motifs of the Sanctuary and the Tower. On this door there are twenty-four hand-carved panels, portraying the creation of life in its various aspects. A crypt in front of the North Door is the burial place of Edward Bok, who died January 9, 1930.

In Mr. Bok's elaborate private room is an electric attachment for playing the carillon in the event of the bellmaster's illness. Mr. Anton Brees, the bellmaster, is accepted as the foremost carillionneur in the world.

The carillon of 71 bells is the largest and finest in the world. The largest bell weighs 11 tons and the smallest 12 pounds. The total weight of all the bells is 123,164 pounds.


Flame Vine

Wonderful Florida

The land of sunshine and flowers, luscious fruits, tropic splendors and a climate exquisitely delightful. Florida may also be called the State of Lakes, having within its borders 30,000 lakes, the largest of which is Lake Okeechobee, 40 miles long and 25 miles wide, in the Everglades, which alone cover an area of 5,000 square miles. Blue skies are reflected in the beauty of far-flung ocean and bay, through the witchery of cool moonlit nights, when the tropical breeze whispers in the palm fronds.

Tall pines towering solemnly, sentinel green palms, waterscapes of little lakes and bayous come unexpectedly into view as some wooded corner is rounded. The big, blue Bay and rolling Gulf—all have been described. They are the scenes of warmth and beauty that dwellers in frozen countries hang upon their walls and love to look upon. But in Florida you live right in the picture—a part of your world of dreams and desires—in a land of balmy sunshine.

Florida is also the hunters' paradise. The sportsman will find a wide variety of game, wild turkey, raccoons, opossums, deer and black bear.

Alligators are extremely rare, having been hunted for their skin, until practically extinct. Alligator farms in various parts of the state are most profitable enterprises and of great interest to the traveller.

Phosphate rock is found in various parts of the state. It is used in the manufacture of fertilizer. The value of Florida's phosphate rock output is greater than that of any other state. Florida also ranks first in the production of turpentine, pitch and rosin.

The Spanish adventurer, Ponce de Leon, landed on the site of St. Augustine, Florida, April 2, 1513, searching for the Fountain of Youth. Another expedition under Narvaez, 1528, was a failure, only four of his men succeeded in reaching Mexico. DeSoto's Florida expedition, 11 years later, resulted in the discovery of the Mississippi River. The Spaniards founded St. Augustine in 1565 and erected a fort. Here is the oldest house in America, erected in 1588. In 1686, St. Augustine was burnt by Sir Francis Drake. In 1763 Florida was ceded to England by the Treaty of Paris, but 20 years later, Spanish rule was again established. By treaty, in 1819, Florida became part of the United States, was admitted to the Union in 1845 as the 26th state.

The mighty St. John's River is Florida's largest. It is 400 miles long, its source being Lake Washington, flowing northward through several other lakes, until finally joining the Atlantic, north of Jacksonville.

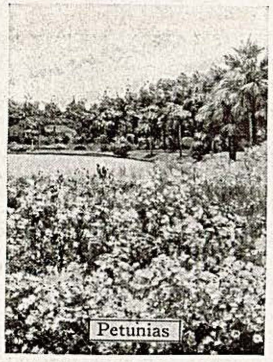
A CLUSTER OF ORANGES

GROWING PINEAPPLES

GROWING BANANAS

A CLUSTER OF GRAPEFRUIT

Flowers


Petunias

Words can never adequately describe or do justice to the lavish profusion of rare, tropical flowers thriving in Florida, together with many widely-known species grown elsewhere. Everywhere a riotous profusion of all colors. Roses bloom all the year and in the spring the perfume of orange blossoms is everywhere. The magnolia, of glossy leaf and immense, fragrant creamy blossoms, is frequently encountered, a delight to the eye. Vines that are perfect curtains of glowing colors—the purple bougainvillaea and the flame vine, the red bignonia and trumpet flower, the white and yellow jasmine and the golden allamanda, hibiscus and poincianas, many-hued oleanders, rubber trees, and cacti thrive profusely. Every winter, when the northern people visit Florida's various playgrounds, they are amazed and delighted with the gorgeous display of petunias. Florida's petunias outrival the poppies of California, which gild her roadsides and vacant lands. One of the glories of Florida is the luxuriant beauty of its quick growing, marvelously brilliant annual flowers, snap dragons, sweet peas, cannas, dahlias, gladiolus, zinnias and many others. The following are some of the rare, particularly beautiful species for which Florida is famous:

Hibiscus—A beautiful scarlet or pink flower of the Mallow family. A most attractive plant at times attaining a height of eight to ten feet, with large, velvety leaves and bell-shaped flowers.

Bignonia Venusta (Flame Vine)—The most beautiful ornamental vine in Florida, a brilliant flame-colored flower. The vine, thickly covered with flowers, trails on walls, tree trunks, fences and on houses, clinging closely to the surface, covering completely, and when in bloom presents a flaming brilliance.

Azaleas—Very beautiful, white, light pink, dark pink, red, scarlet, lavender and variegated flowers literally covering the bushes which blossom from October to March. When not in bloom, the azalea is an attractive evergreen shrub.

Bougainvillaea—A trailing vine literally covered with brilliant purple or red blossoms grown extensively in Florida, beautifying home gardens.

Poinsettia—A tropical plant named after Dr. Poinsett of Charleston, S. C., who introduced it to America about 1835. The gorgeous red flowers are popular for Christmas decorations. The real flower is the yellow center around which are the brilliant scarlet leaves.

Royal Poinciana—Those at Palm Beach have flame-colored flowers. Scarlet, yellow and orange varieties are also grown in tropical regions.

Night Blooming Cereus

Allamanda—Named after Dr. Fred. Allemand, Professor of Natural History of Leyden University. A vine with rich yellow blossoms.

Night Blooming Jasmine—These flowers bloom at night and are very fragrant. Sweetest of all Florida flowers, but are not fragrant in the day time.

Oleanders—With white and pink blossoms, are extensively grown in all parts of Florida.

Orange—Florida's state flower, the orange blossom, wonderfully fragrant, thick petaled, white and waxlike, growing either singly or in clusters. The orange tree is evergreen, having oblong, glossy, dark green leaves.

Camellia Japonica—A large, most beautiful, rose-like, waxy flower blooming during the winter, but not fragrant. The laurel-like, dark green leaves are glossy and are an ideal background for the attractive blossoms.

Fruits

While Florida's citrus fruits are famous, many rare, tropical fruits are grown in this veritable Garden of Eden. Mangoes and avocado pears, guavas and papayas or "pawpaws," bananas and pineapples, mangoes, etc., mingle with the commoner citrus fruit trees, such as orange, grapefruit, lime and lemon. The following are the most popular and well-known varieties:

Orange—This popular fruit, a native of Asiatic countries, was brought to Florida by the Spaniards in the 16th century. The cultivation of the orange is one of the most important industries in the state, about 12,000,000 boxes being shipped annually. The Indian River oranges are especially well-known, Russet and Pineapple oranges are also favorites. At times, the trees have ripened fruit, green fruit and exquisitely fragrant blossoms, thick petaled, white and waxlike, growing singly or in clusters, a delight to the passing motorist because of their beauty and fragrance.

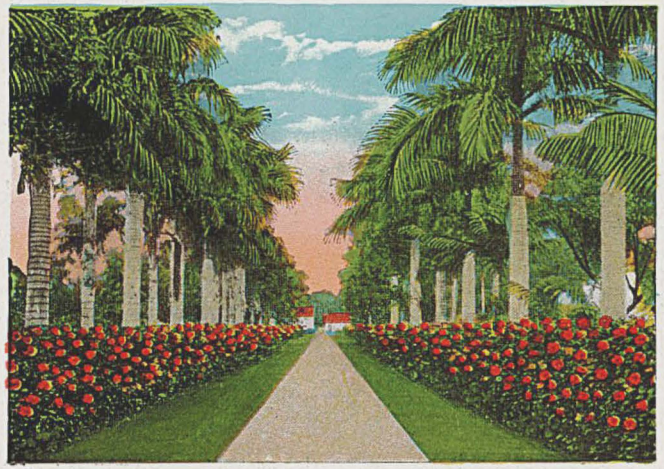
Grapefruit—Because of growing in clusters like grapes, the name, grapefruit, has been applied to this most popular citrus fruit, extensively grown throughout Florida, this state producing six to seven million boxes annually. The grapefruit is a native of the Polynesian and Malayan Islands, and was introduced into Florida by the Spaniards.

Pawpaw—The pawpaw tree attains a height of 20 to 30 feet. Its fruit resembles a banana and has a brown, wrinkled skin. It is 3 to 5 inches long, having a soft, sweet pulp. The melon pawpaw grows wild, the fruit being similar to a cantaloupe, which can be eaten raw or be used for conserves.

FLAME VINE (BIGNONIA-VENUSTA)

POINSETTIAS IN BLOOM

ROYAL POINCIANA TREE IN BLOOM



ROYAL PALMS AND HIBISCUS

Banana Blossoms

Lime—The lime tree is small, rarely over 8 feet in height, and is a native of India and China. The fruit is small and round, resembling a lemon in color, but it is more sour, used for making citric acid and the refreshing drink, limeade.

Kumquat—Was introduced into Florida from China. It is a shrubby tree of the orange family, the fruit being small and oblong, very palatable, even the rind being sweet.

Avocado Pear—Also known as alligator pear, weighs from one to two pounds, is egg-shaped, dark green in color and contains a large, round, light green kernel. The fruit is of a most delicate flavor. The tree is a tropical evergreen.

Guava—A native of India, is extensively grown in Florida. The fruit is about the size and shape of an egg, smooth and yellow. The flesh or pulp is sweet sour, used for preserves and marmalade, contains horny seeds.

Mango—A native of India, an evergreen tree bearing abundant fruit, which weighs one pound or more. It is plum-shaped, sweet and slightly acid. Pickles, sauces, etc., can be made from the unripe fruit.

Tangerine—Originates from Tangier, Morocco, which accounts for its name. It is extensively grown in Florida and is somewhat hardier than the orange, to which it is closely related, although smaller in size and deeper in color.

Persimmon—Japanese persimmon, secured by grafting this species on the native persimmon, bears fruit, which, when dried, is in appearance and flavor like a dried fig.

Loquat—Hails from China and Japan. It is a tree of about 12 feet in height with large, wrinkled leaves, the fruit being pear-shaped and about the size of a plum, yellow, and pleasantly acid flavored.

Lemon—The crusaders brought the lemon tree from the Orient. It thrives in all mild climates. The blossoms are not quite as fragrant as that of their cousin's, the orange, and somewhat smaller. The foliage is also lighter and not as dense. The average tree bears 200 to 300 pounds of lemons each season.

Banana—Is not a fruit of a tree but of a giant herb, which, in the tropics, attains the height of 40 feet and leaves of a foot wide and 6 to 10 feet long. A large flower bud of small, purple flowers appears, each flower developing into a small banana pointing upward, the bananas growing upward, just the opposite of how they appear displayed in fruit markets.

Pineapple—The well-known pineapple is grown in the southern part of the state. The pineapple is a native of South America, being discovered during the Spanish exploration. Each plant produces only one fruit.

Cocoanuts—The fruit of the cocoanut palm grows in clusters incased in a thick, fibrous hull, along the coast of tropic Florida. The feathery leaves are used for thatching and for making baskets. The tree produces 80 to 100 nuts annually. The juice of the nut makes a delicious drink. The terminal buds are edible as well as the meat of the nut. The cocoanut oil, used for making soap and for other purposes, is pressed from the fruit.

Oleanders

Cultivated and Wild Plants and Shrubs

A vast number of plants and shrubs, wild and cultivated, thrive most luxuriantly in Florida's balmy climate. Tropical varieties are the admiration of northern visitors, likewise, the greater perfection attained here by non-tropical varieties. Space permits only describing those which are most noteworthy, as follows:

Crotons—A large and beautiful variety of fine decorative plants, which do not bloom, but the leaves are vari-colored and very ornamental and beautiful.

Jacobinia (Cardinal's Guard)—Grows along streams and ponds, has broad, glossy green, elliptic leaves, and crimson flowers blooming constantly.

Cuphea (Cigarette Plant)—Covered almost constantly with small, tubular flowers. There are several varieties having lavender, white, scarlet and yellow flowers.

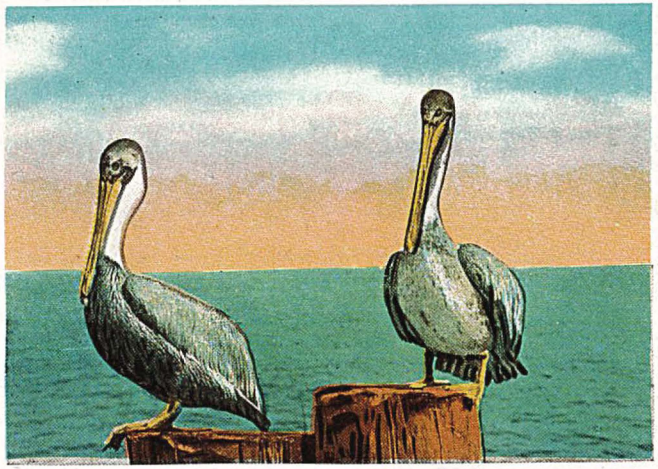
Bamboo—Ranging in height from 10 to 40 feet. This giant, tree-like grass is planted for making hedges, etc. Several varieties grow in Florida. Very rapid in growth, under favorable conditions growing one foot in 24 hours.

Spanish Moss—A parasite plant, grayish green in color, that attaches itself to the branches of oak and other trees and forms great hanging tufts. Often used for stuffing mattresses.

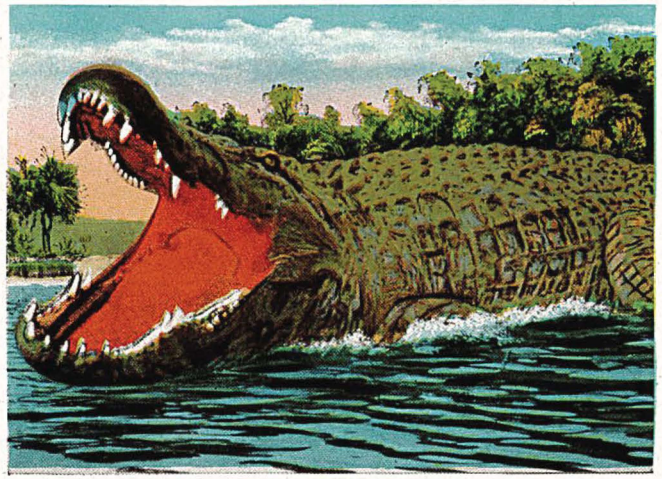
Spanish Bayonet—A lillaceous plant with spine tipped leaves, grows to great size, also called Spanish Dagger. The large, white, showy blossoms grow at the end of a tall, woody stalk.

Cestrum—A beautiful flowering shrub blooming profusely during the winter months. There are several varieties, long, pendulous branches, oval leaves and orange and yellow blossoms. Another with small, white, tubular blossoms, and another with flowers greenish in color, opening about sundown and emitting a very heavy fragrance.

Saw Grass—In the Everglades this giant grass, having stiff leaves 7 feet in length with saw tooth edges, is a menace to the clothing of those who venture into it.



MR. AND MRS. PELICAN



A FLORIDA ALLIGATOR

A GROUP OF SEMINOLE INDIANS

SEMINOLE INDIAN VILLAGE

Orange Blossoms

Aquatic Plants—The gorgeous tropical water Hyacinths, vari-colored, massive lotus and water lilies grow luxuriantly in lakes and streams in solid masses, a delight to the eye.

Cacti—Curious growths with sharp thorns, others with beautiful blossoms, flourish chiefly in the Florida jungles.

Acalypha (Fire Dragon) — Has highly-colored foliage. There are several varieties, some attaining a height of 10 feet. Each kind has very beautiful leaves, green leaves margined with yellow, green leaves with varying shades of red, pink and cream, and leaves showing all shades of green, yellow and red.

Gama Grass—Gigantic in size, six feet or more in length, grows in the Everglades and is also cultivated. The leaves are colored and used for decorative purposes.

Lianas—Luxuriant and woody plants, climbing high trees and having rope-like stems. They grow in the tropical hammocks of South Florida, trailing from trees and forming coils and loops.

Agave—A member of the century plant family, attaining maturity in from 6 to 10 years, when it puts forth a flowering stem, which grows with great rapidity. Grows in the Everglades, has huge rosettes of basal leaves, sometimes 14 feet in diameter.

Ferns—Innumerable varieties thrive in Florida, the fronds of some species attaining a length of 25 feet.

Acacia—Grows along streams and ponds, has broad, glossy green, elliptic leaves, and crimson flowers blooming constantly.

Aralia—Grows to a height of 10 feet, a splendid foliaged plant with round variegated leaflets of green, cream and white.

Phodomyrtus (Giant Yew)—Grows 6 to 10 feet high, foliage is grav to olive-green and the rosy pink flowers suggest wild roses in color and form, edible blue-black berries.

Chrysolbalanus (Coco Plum)—A very attractive evergreen tree or large shrub grown for its dark green, glossy foliage. The purple fruit is quite attractive and has an agreeable flavor.

Myrica (Wax Myrtle)—A most attractive evergreen shrub having olive-green leaves, used for hedges and lawn planting. It bears slate-colored berries, which make a marketable wax.

Trees

Luxuriant flowers and palms grow everywhere. There are miles and miles of orange and grapefruit groves. Rich subtropical vegetation, curious masses of mangroves, live oaks, great cypress and long-leaf pines and other interesting trees constitute Florida's vast acreage of forest land, which covers almost two-thirds of the entire area of the state, but it must be remembered that Florida is considerably larger than the combined area of the following eight states: Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and Massachusetts.

Magnolia Blossom

Live Oak—Slow growing, attains tremendous proportions. It is an evergreen, the foliage is thicker than the Laurel Oak and somewhat rolled under at the edges and more grayish in tone. The beautiful Spanish Moss grows on these trees.

Palms—The palm family comprises 1,100 varieties. Some of these thrive in Florida, the familiar varieties being the towering royal palm, saw palmetto, saw cabbage palm, cabbage palmetto, blue stem palmetto, dwarf palmetto, Washingtonian palm, the silver palm of the pine woods of Miami and Homestead, Florida thatch palm, the brittle thatch, and the cocoanut palm. The magnificent royal palms at times grow to a height of 120 feet. Royal Palm Park, 45 miles south of Miami, contains a collection of about 2,000 of these splendid trees. From Palmetto fibre, which is very strong and durable, are manufactured whisk brooms, brushes, etc., superior to broom corn and extensively manufactured at Cedar Keys, Fla.

Pittosporum—A small tree of compact growth. The foliage is a bright, rich green and the large umbels of white, fragrant flowers are followed by orange-colored berries in the fall.

Cupressus—Rare, tall, evergreen tree of elegant appearance with drooping, feathery branches, has a very broad base tapering toward the top to a cone shape. Some varieties grow to a height of 50 feet.

Thuya—A tall, loose-growing, evergreen tree having blue-green foliage. It can be sheared to almost any desired shape.

Podocarpus—A very beautiful coniferous tree, ultimately attaining a height of 40 to 50 feet, with horizontally spreading branches, pendant branchlets and large leaves.

Magnolia—An evergreen tree with large, blueish-green leaves, producing very fragrant, ivory-colored blossoms, which turn to a rich peach color.

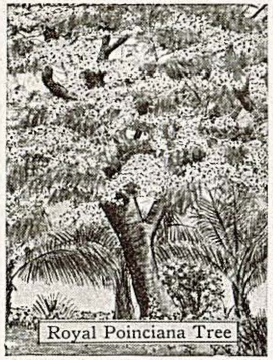
Lignum Vitae—The wood of this tree is very hard and heavy, especially adapted for wheels of ship blocks, pulleys, cogs and bowling balls.

AT SILVER SPRINGS, NEAR OCALA

SEEING SILVER SPRINGS, THROUGH GLASS BOTTOM BOAT

SINGING TOWER AT MOUNTAIN LAKE SANCTUARY, NEAR LAKE WALES

FLAMINGOES AT MOUNTAIN LAKE SANCTUARY


Royal Poinciana Tree

Mangrove—A species of shrubs or trees which spread thickly and abound on the shores of lakes and rivers in tropical countries. These trees have the remarkable habit of throwing out roots in all downward directions on the lower part of the trunk and these take root along the muddy shore. By this means the mangrove spreads in monotonous, green thickets sometimes for hundreds of miles; at their roots the new soil is slowly formed from sand brought in by the waves and from falling leaves, etc., and in time even islands of considerable size may be formed.

Banyan—Florida's most remarkable tree, which sprouts even from a seed dropped on the limb of any other tree by birds. The roots descend to the soil and in time kill the tree on which they grow. Then as the branches develop, these throw down supports which take root as soon as they touch the ground, enlarge into trunks and extend branches in their turn to all sides of the parent tree. Some of these trees grow to very large proportions.

Cypress—A massive, evergreen tree reaching a height of 150 feet. It grows best in moist, warm climates. Florida produces 10% of the vast quantity of cypress lumber used in the United States for building purposes.

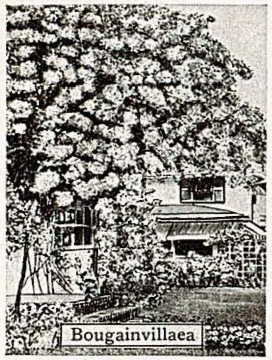
Eucalyptus—A fast growing tree attaining at times the great height of 400 feet. The leaves are unsymmetrical, long and narrow. The flowers are white, bell-shaped and filled with nectar.

Birds

Many of the beautiful song birds, which delight the people of the north, in spring and summer, spend their winters in Florida. In addition to these, there are interesting tropical birds of brilliant plumage, sweet songsters, strange, tiny specimens, the great, brightly-colored flamingoes, which were at one time so numerous that Florida was named the "Flamingo State," etc. Florida's most interesting members of the feathery tribe are the:

Flamingo—An odd looking, beautifully colored, web-footed water bird. It stands from 5 to 6 feet high, has long legs and a long, slender neck. Plumage is deep vermilion with black tips, for which it is sought. These birds were once common in Florida, but hunters have almost exterminated them.

Pelican—The largest of web-footed birds, has an enormous bill to the lower edge of which is attached a pouch in which fish are temporarily stored to be feasted on at leisure or fed to its young. The birds are highly sociable, living in colonies following a co-operative plan in their fishing. A curious sight is to see the young pelican plunge its head deep into the parent bird's pouch to dig out the partly digested food.


Bougainvillaea

Nightingale — Celebrated for the sweetness of its song. Often heard at night. It belongs to the thrush family and is plain in appearance, of russet brown, shading into red, and is very shy.

Buzzard—A species of hawk known for their grace in flight and wonderful ease, often remaining in the air for hours. Their eyesight is very keen.

Egret—A white Heron, at one time numerous in Florida, but now almost extinct. Sought for the plumes or egrets, the feathers of the lower part of the back, which form a flowing train.

Ibis—A stork-like wading bird, having a long slender bill with a downward curve. It feeds largely on reptiles. The scarlet ibis has red plumage, the wing feathers being marked with a black stripe. White ibis is common in Florida. They live in colonies, as many as 40 pairs sometimes nesting in the same tree.

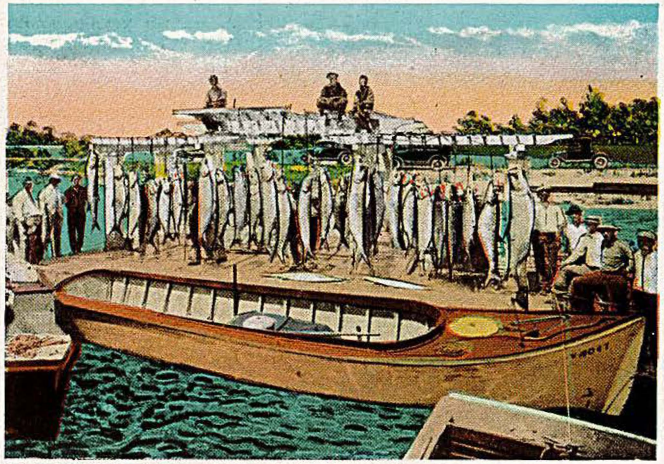
Spoonbill—A wading bird similar to the ibis. Distinguished by its odd spoon-shaped bill which it swings from side to side in the water in search of crabs, crawfish, shell fish and marine insects. The roseate spoonbill has plumage of a rosy pink, shading into carmine. This bird is almost extinct.

Subsea Wonders

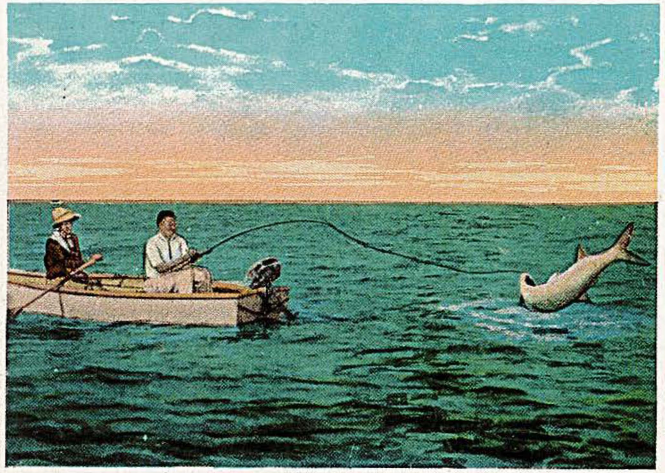
Through the clear waters of the reefs off the east coast of southern Florida are mirrored rare beauties of subsea life, amazing forests of giant, coral jungles, of sea-fans and plumes, the deep purples and vivid reds of their hues standing out in sharp contrast to the pure white sand with its patches of green and blue sea-grass.

Sponges—To say that the sponge is a skeleton may be startling but in truth, it is the horny skeleton of the lowest specie of sea animal. Living sponges are brilliantly colored, growing attached to the sea bottoms. The harpoon method is generally used by sponge fishermen in Florida waters. After the flesh of the sponge is decomposed, sponges are washed and dried and baled for market. Florida fisheries supply the greater part of sponges for the American market.

Star Fish—A sea animal covered with a thick, leathery skin of living spines, has a shape of a five point star, having a mouth on the upper surface of the disk and lives chiefly on oysters and clams. At times its depredation on oyster beds entails a serious loss.



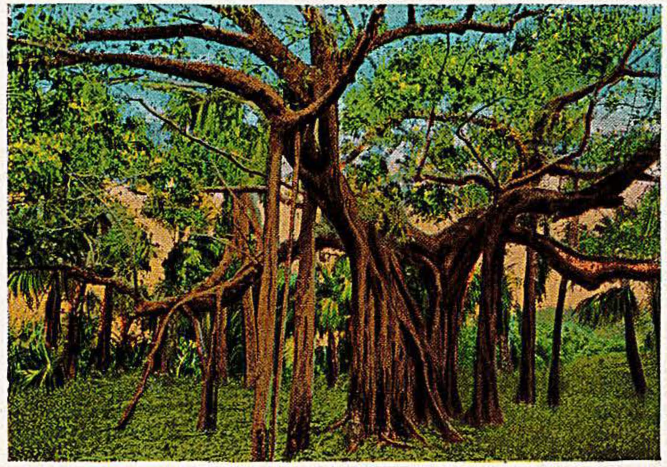
FISHING IS GOOD IN FLORIDA WATERS



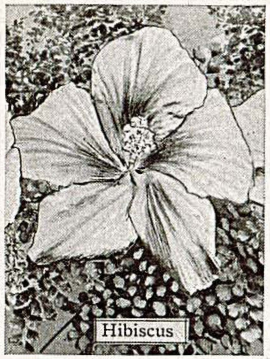
LANDING A "BIG ONE"

COPR. BY VENICE TARPON CLUB.

A TROPICAL SCENE



BANYAN TREE


Hibiscus

Sea Anemones—While it has the appearance of a beautiful flower, it is a polyp of cylindrical form growing attached to rocks and at times to wharfs. It has tentacles with which it captures small sea animals used for food.

Coral—Is a substance formed by tiny, jelly-like animals of the sea called polyps. They anchor themselves to the bed rock and are soon incased with a rock-like substance. New polyps grow from the parents and always remain attached, and billions and billions of these tiny creatures build formations of fanciful colors in white, yellow, pink, red or black, forming amazing pieces of animal architecture. Various fantastic and flower-shaped corals are the sea-fan, tree coral, mushroom, organ pipe and brain coral. Off the coast of Florida are fringing reef coral formations, a broad bank or platform of coral rock lying near the shores of an island or continent.

Sea Horse—Not a horse as to size, but a tiny sea animal, 6 to 8 inches long, with a tail slightly coiled inward, so named because its head resembles the head of a horse.

Conchs—An edible mollusk found abundantly on the coast of Florida, has a heavy spiral shell, used at times as a dinner horn by breaking off the end. The shell is used for button making and in porcelain composition. The flesh is sometimes eaten by the poorer people.

Fishes

A sea as blue as the richest sapphire beckons you to spend a sunny afternoon on the Gulf Stream, where 600 varieties of fish abound. There are leaping tarpons, the savage barracuda, so aptly named the sea-tiger, the powerful bonita, the quick-dashing kingfish, the darting, many-colored dolphin, marlin, the deep diving grouper and scores of others, trout and bass galore in the inland lakes, streams and canals. The actual catches of Spanish mackerel, sheepshead, grouper, trout, snapper, and many other edible fishes, are so large as to be almost unbelievable to those unacquainted with the facts. Great sport is had also in catching the enormous jewfish. The great "silver king" or leaping tarpon approaches Florida late in the spring, and until the end of summer fishermen from near and far are out with hook and tackle to capture the silver beauties—from 75 to 200 pounds in weight. Through the branches of odd and fantastic coral trees gracefully swim the fish that defy description, in color and shape, queer and colorful denizens of the watery depths that are as diverting as flowers. One fish house exports annually 2,500,000 pounds of fish, principally Spanish mackerel and mullet. A few of the most interesting of over 600

Allamanda

species of fish in Florida waters are the following:

Mackerel — Swims in immense schools, covering a square mile or more. A fish of perfect proportions, blue and green with black stripes on top and silvery white below, highly prized for food.

Dolphin—A beautiful olive green fish, an exceptionally fast swimmer, following ships in schools, very interesting and graceful, leaps many feet into the air, delighting passengers. The small dolphin is about two feet long, while the large dolphin attains a length of six feet.

Tarpon (or Silver King)—Is covered with large, silvery scales like an armor of gleaming silver, attains, at times, a length of six feet and weighing 150 pounds, is much sought by fishermen on account of its gameness, strength and fighting qualities.

Sea Bass—Is exceptionally game, weighs 40 to 300 pounds. A good food fish.

Porpoise—A mammal, six to eight feet long, has smooth, black skin and white below, a short beakless head with a blowhole between its eyes. The skin is used for making leather and its fat for an oil of commercial value.

Skate—A member of the Ray family, having a round, flat body and a slender tail which is used for steering purposes only, from one to four feet in length. Most species are edible. The Whip Ray is seven feet across, has beautifully spotted back and wings. The Sting Ray, of which there are about fifty different species, grows to a length of ten to twelve feet. It has a flexible tail with spines near the base, which have cutting teeth along the edges, a dagger-like weapon.

Barracuda (or Sea Tiger)—A savage, pike-like fish at times six feet long, very game.

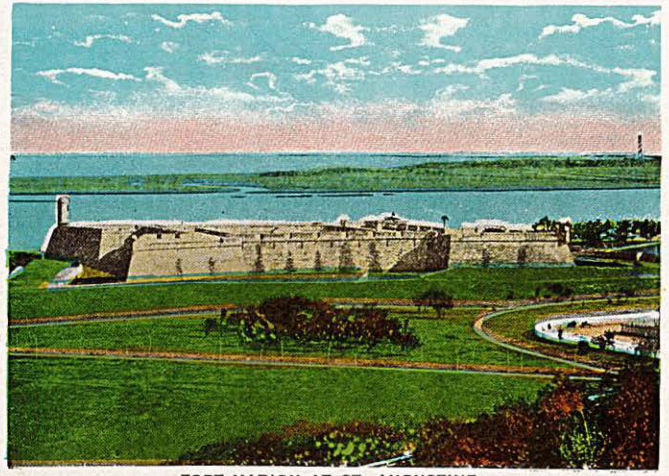
Kingfish—Is wonderfully colored, resembling mother of pearl shells, travels in schools, and is a member of the mackerel family.

Sheepshead—In its prison garb is interesting, its stripes resembling a convict's uniform. It is said to live on oysters.

Sailfish—Is about eight feet long and has a large dorsal fin, brilliantly colored, which it raises high above the water, thus presenting the appearance of a sail.

Jewfish—Attains at times a weight of 700 pounds. It is the largest of the sea bass family, brown or dark green in color, having a large flat head and a huge mouth.

OLDEST HOUSE IN AMERICA, ST. AUGUSTINE



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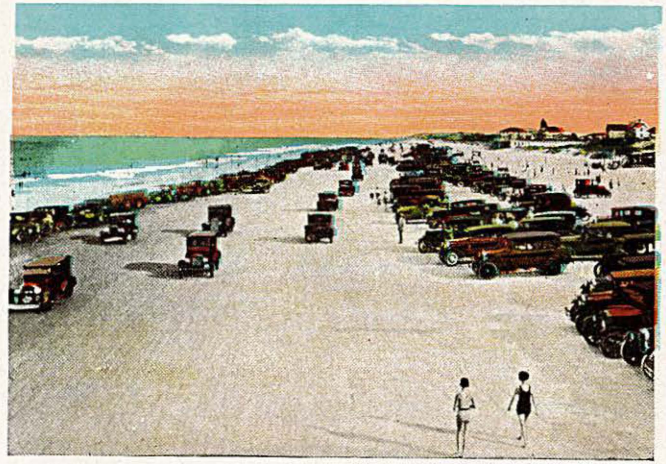
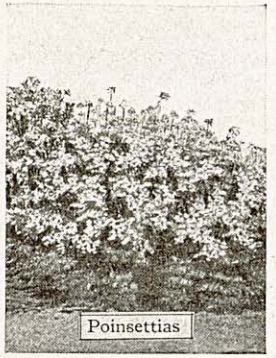


DAYTONA BEACH, FASTEST AUTO RACE COURSE IN THE WORLD

ONE OF THE BEAUTIFUL LAKES IN FLORIDA


Poinsettias

Remora—An enemy of the shark, having sucking planes in its head whereby it clings to the under body of these monsters, feeding on them.

Sawfish—The American species attains a length of 15 feet including the saw, which is a flat, bony snout with sharp teeth on both sides.

Miscellaneous

Silver Springs—Water as clear as air makes possible viewing submarine wonders and studying geological formations, numerous varieties of fish and turtles and captivating prismatic hues at Silver Springs near Ocala, Florida, through glass bottom boats. These Springs, a part of a crystal clear river, navigable to its source, have a flow of more than 600,000,000 gallons every 24 hours.

Wahkulla Springs—In the northwestern part of the state, is about 500 feet wide and 100 feet deep, and is perhaps the largest spring in the world. Florida has numerous springs and underground streams connecting lakes. It is estimated that about 400 tons of lime rock are worn away annually by Florida's springs.

Florida offers the finest surf bathing and swimming facilities. The surf is so enjoyable and the water so tempered that there are few days of the year when bathers are not seen on the beaches. A delightful dip into the Atlantic or into the Gulf can be enjoyed in January as well as in June. At Ormond and Daytona Beaches, about 50 miles south of St. Augustine, the beach is smooth and hard and is a favorable spot for automobile races, speed records, etc. Jacksonville and Atlantic Beaches are among the finest in the world. The sand is so white and hard that the heaviest automobile leaves but a faint outline of its tire treads. Pablo Beach, 18 miles from Jacksonville, presents a drive 40 miles along beaches 400 feet wide at low tide, upon what cannot be excelled as motor highway.

The Everglades—Nature worked for untold centuries to produce the rich, black soil of The Everglades near Palm Beach, an area of 5,000 square miles, partly wooded and mostly swamp, formerly uninhabitable. Two million acres, composed entirely of decayed vegetable matter in many places 12 to 14 feet deep, are being reclaimed and the once trackless Everglades, home of the Seminole and alligator, is being developed and planted and is producing crops in profusion.

Cigars—Tampa and Key West manufacture large quantities of fine cigars from tobacco imported from Havana, Cuba. The estimated annual production is $25,000,000.

Cannas

Turpentine and Rosin—An important source of revenue, tremendous quantities being produced, exceeding $32,000,000.

Vegetables—Are grown for shipment to northern markets, tomatoes, green peppers, celery and eggplant receiving special attention.

Florida Keys—A group of small islands or coral reefs, which stretch in a curved line about 200 miles long from Biscayne Bay southward to the Gulf. On these was built the Florida East Coast Railway by Henry M. Flagler, connecting the mainland with Key West, a distance of 130 miles, considered a remarkable engineering feat.

Seminole Indians—The original picturesque inhabitants of Florida, but now only a few hundred remain in the state, inhabiting the Everglades.

American Chameleon—Quite common in Florida, gray, nearly white in color when in the dark, but changes to brown, green and red, according to the color of object on which it rests or according to its temper.

Coquina Rock—Used by the Spaniards in building the old fort at St. Augustine, also in the construction of the Bok Singing Tower. It is a soft, light colored, coral-like stone formed by broken shells and coral during prehistoric ages.

Florida—A Spanish word meaning "flowery," was named by the discoverer, Ponce de Leon, who landed at St. Augustine, April 2, 1513. Easter Sunday, in Spanish "Pascua Florida," means Flowery Easter.

Florida is the largest state east of the Mississippi River, with the exception of Georgia.

Florida has the lowest average elevation above sea level of any state, with the exception of Louisiana. Its highest elevation is the central divide, 100 to 274 feet above sea level.

Razor Back—A small species of wild boar, so named because of the shape of its back, very common in Florida.

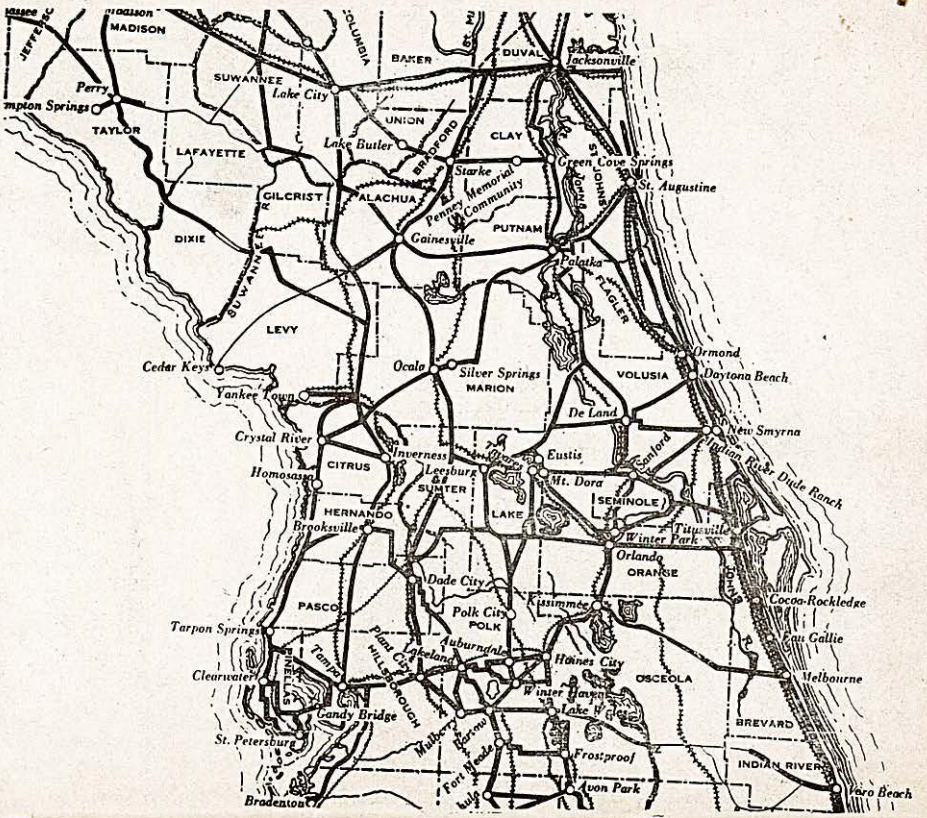
AN ORANGE GROVE

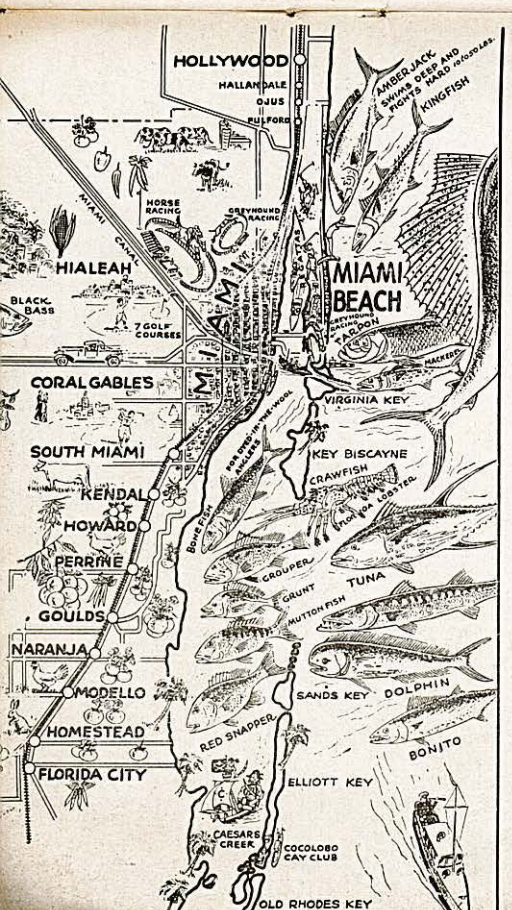
TROPICAL FOLIAGE

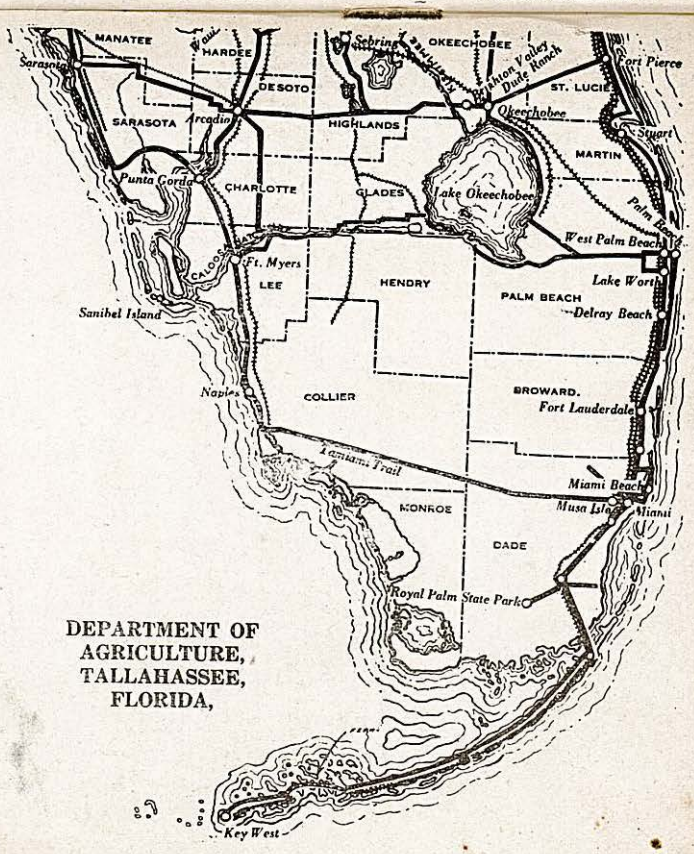
COCOANUT TREE

BOUGAINVILLAEA VINE

MAP OF FLORIDA SHOWING MAIN HIGHWAYS







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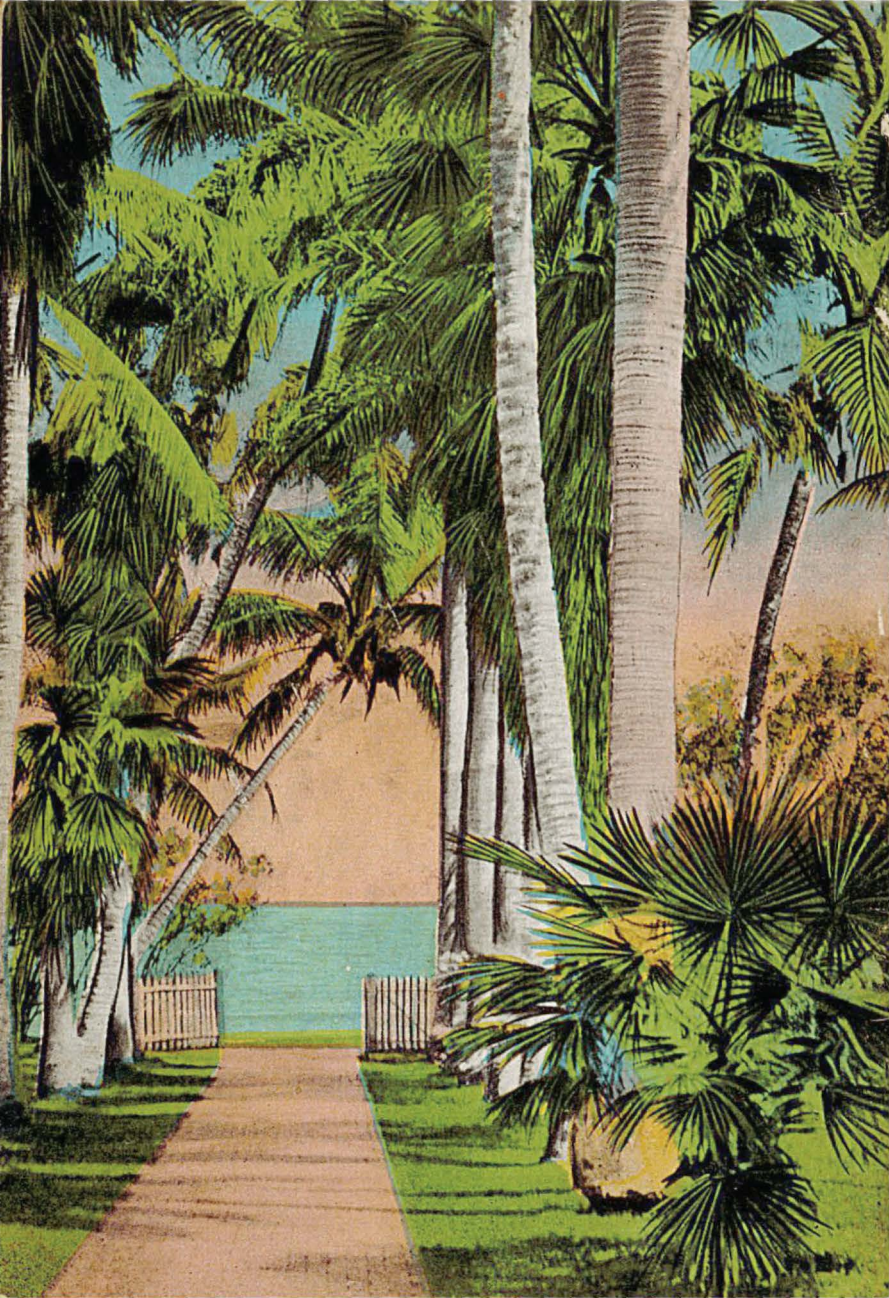
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